

ELP 979

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

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REPORT

TOPIC KVP in East Berlin

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 17 to 29 July 1953

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 12 August 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. At about 5 p.m. on 27 July 1953, a KVP motor vehicle column was seen passing through Lichtenberg, coming from the east and proceeding toward the middle of the town. The column included 12 trucks each occupied by 45 soldiers who wore red-bordered epaulets. [redacted]
2. In the evening of 27 July, Schlosspark Friedrichsfelde was still occupied by KVPs wearing black-bordered red or crimson-bordered field brown epaulets. A KVP soldier stated that the tent camp quartered 3,000 KVPs. Most of the KVPs allegedly came from Saxony while other came from Thuringia.<sup>1</sup>
3. In the afternoon of 28 July, a KVP outguard numbering between 100 and 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets was seen at the intersection of Heidekampsweg and Wohlgemuth Strasse. The troops were quartered in an old shed and four tents. A truck which arrived at the place carrying 45 soldiers armed with Soviet carbines [redacted] had a triangle as technical symbol. A captain stated that 20,000 KVPs would be employed in East Berlin. He said that they were two infantry divisions and border troops.<sup>2</sup>
4. On 28 July, a KVP camp was in Schlosspark Friedrichsfelde. The main entrance of the camp was blocked by a gate. A guard tent nearby was occupied by an officer who checked on incoming and outgoing motor vehicles. [redacted]
5. On 29 July 1953, a large KVP tent camp was seen in Schlosspark Friedrichsfelde.

Most of the soldiers seen there wore red epaulets, a small number had black epaulets. The total strength of the occupation of the camp was estimated 1,500. <sup>1</sup>

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25X1

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

25X1 [redacted] between 250 and 300 tents housing about 2,500  
 25X1 soldiers were located there. About 40 trucks and 4 horse-drawn vehicles  
 25X1 were seen in the southern section of the park. No heavy weapons were  
 25X1 observed. There was lively activity at the camp. [redacted]

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25X1 [redacted] Comment. It had previously been assumed that most of the KVP units  
 transferred to Berlin belonged to the division in Prenzlau whose personnel  
 consisted of soldiers from Saxony and Thuringia. No information is  
 available at present to indicate the transfer to Berlin of KVP units  
 25X1 stationed in Saxony and Thuringia. It is believed  
 25X1 that the tent camp quarters KVPs in the strength of about one infantry  
 regiment.

25X1 [redacted] Comment. [redacted] estimate is probably too high. It is probable  
 that units of the infantry divisions of Prenzlau and Prora may have been  
 25X1 or be employed in Berlin. A transportation [redacted] elements  
 of the division stationed in Prora started to move to Berlin on 3 August.  
 25X1 [redacted] Border troops, i.e. border police are  
 permanently employed around Berlin.

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